Popularising the Naturopathy

1952. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to popularize naturopathy and yoga in the country's urban and rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to open nature care centres in community centres through out the country; and

(d) if so, the details of the Government's plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Central Government has already initiated a number of steps to proplarize Yoga and Naturopathy in the country which include establishment of the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN), the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY) in New Delhi and the National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN) in Pune. The CCRYN and the NIN operate schemes that provide for financial assistance to Yoga and Naturopathy institutions/ centres in unban as well as rural areas. Besides, the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Scheme being implemented by the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopath, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) provides for awareness generation about various systems including Yoga & Naturopathy.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

Dental Clinics and AIDS

1953. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the dental clinics are causing the transmission of HIV and some dental clinics do not adhere to strict hygienic practices, which is causing for transmission of HIV;

(b) whether Government have formulated any stringent rule to maintain

their clinics hygienically and to curb the serious menace of transmission of HIV through dental clinics; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) No, Sir. There is no data indicating transmission of HIV by dental clinics. However, transmission of HIV/AIDS through dental clinics is not ruled out. All dental clinics, hospitals & other health care facilities are given guidelines on Prevention of Hospital acquired Infection (HIC). In addition HIC practices in hospitals are being monitored by Hospital Infection Control Committees.

(b) and (c) All dental clinics in Government hospital are required to adhere to highest level of hygiene/sterilization, hospital Infection control and safe waste disposal practices. National AIDS Control Organisation had developed a module on Standard Operating Procedure and Hospital Infection Control that is used in various training workshops.

Leprosy awareness Campaign

1954. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the mission launched by the International Leprosy Union regarding awareness campaign and educating people against stigma attached to it;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to eliminate the disease and spread awareness in the society to stop hatred for leprosy patient since it is a curable disease now;

(c) the percentage of leprosy patients in the country and the action taken to rehabilitate them; and

(d) the success achieved so far, to eliminate leprosy disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKALAKSHMI): (a) International Lepropsy Union is a Non-governmental organization and is carrying out awareness activities in leprosy. As and when invited the State programme offices attend such fucntions and provide programme information.